

Capitulation of the Island of Antigua. 1666
Signed Bastion Bager then President of the Council.

The Remonstrance of the Commanders, officers, deputies & others the inhabitants of the Island Antigua. Declaring the grounds & Reasons: that enforced them to treat & Articulate, with the Lord Lefebvre, de la barre, Lt. Generall for the king of France, in the occidentall Indians -

1666
octo. 25.

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Whereas the said Lt. Generall, arrived in five Island harbours, on the 25th day of octo. 1666 with a fleet of eight sailes of ships, besides, barks, brigantines & sloops, with about eight, or nine hundred soldiers where after a short dispute, they became masters, of the forts & Ammunition to them belonging: forcing the governour, Coll Robert Cardon to Retreat, [whereby they had opportunity to plunder & fire all the houses in & Adjoyning to the said harbour] to the house of Capt. Mugg, where with, about hundred & fifty Men, he Remained all that night. And next morning, at break of the day, discovering the Enimies Approach: drew up to the top of the hill, to which the said Enimies Advancing: our front fired once upon them, the rest crying out, they had no Ammunition, faced about & fled, to Lt. Coll. Bayers: Except some few, with the governour, which got into the said Muggs house: where after a little Resistance, they were all taken prisoner, & Carried on board their ships, with the plunder of the said house; which they upon their Retreat & flight on fire. That night, the said forces, that were sent to the said house, & the said Enimies, made head at Lt. Coll. Bayers: keeping out continuall fire, on houses back, to observe the Enimies motion: Lt. Coll. Bayers being chosen to Command; by whose order, the barbarian soldiers: About seven hundred, with some of our Islanders, were sent, to beat up the Enimies quarters: who marched, at face of the said Muggs, & could not be persuaded, to proceed any further, but to the great discouragement of our Islanders, Retreatted, back, againe, to the said Bayers house. The next morning, our front gave notice of the Enimies Advancing, to the East side of the said Muggs house: where they made an halt about an hour: sending parties about, to discover if any Ambush, where laid for them, but finding none [for our small number, & the peoples Aversness, would not permit it] they marched on, into the said Bayers pasture, and thence drew up, some two muskettts shot from the house: sending a trumpet, with a note, from Coll. Cardon specifying their civill uses, of himselfe & the rest of the prisoners, And the Enimies Resolution to Reduct the Island: And as they have since Avoided, a summons; which if in paper, was not delivered, if verball not understood. The Messenger being dismissed, with thanks for their civillities, to our prisoners, And our promise to use the like to theirs, when any should fall into our hands: they fitted them selves, presently for the Assault, being by Relation, About six hundred Men, led on by the governour, of martinico, Guadalupe, & Margalenta, besides men, placed at the foot of the hill, behinde the stakes. The dispute, was very sharp for halfe an hour, when the Enimies, much galed with our shot, ran violently on, And broke the passaget through, upon our men: the pursuit being very hott, most were forced to fly into the fildes; the others recovered the house, where they made, what Resistance they could: but being overpowered, most of them killed & wounded, the rest yacked & upon quarter, And where Carried away prisoner, Aboard the ships, Amongst whom was Lt. Coll. Charles Gholts desperately wounded, the house they Ran sackt, plundered & set on fire, with all the buildings, with boiling houses, Curing houses with the sugar therein, & All other Edifices. Having thus finished their destruction in this place, they Returned to five Islands, & in their way, burnt the storhouses of the said Bayers, at the sea side being full of sugar: And also the said Muggs sugar Works, Carrying away his Cooper, Cases &c. the major mind that night, Expecting the Enimies; And the next day more coming in, made up the number, near two hundred men, of which where seven files of barbadians, who After they where furnished, with powder & ball, they wanted; publicly declared, they would obey none, but whom they please; And that they would goe to the Road, to the Rest of the barbadians. Here began our inward distractions, many of the Islanders manifesting their Unwillingness, to Engage any more, Against the Enimies. Notwithstanding, having chosen Lt. Coll. Bastian Bayers, to be their Commander, they where persuaded to keep into a body, And things where ordered, as well, as the time would permit. About noone, our front brought in a trumpet, with this summons -

the Lord de la barre, Lt. Generall of the most Christian king, in the west indians
w^{ch} make knowne to the inhabitants of this Island Antigua, that if Against the day noone, they shall not submit themselves, to the obedience, of the king of France, we will destroy by fire, the whole Island: And will not give quarter to any person: yett, for a favourable & Advantageous caling; of the day, we treat with us. Done in the Road in Antigua, 7 novemb. new stile 1666 Lefebvre de la barre

Very few of the officers & Gentlemen of the Country, where present when this summons was brought: being with the Companies at the figg trees, in their way towards that party, at Capt. Winthropes, therefore it was thought fitt, to deferre an Answer, untill they could be convened, the publick interest debated, And a generall Resolt Concluded, And to that purpose, the trumpet, was dispatched, with this message:

My Lord; we have Received your summons, And in regard other persons, in Remote parts of the Island, are Equally concerned with us, in that business: we shall Command, with them about it, And Returne our Answer to you: And ship by a messenger of our owne, Against the time prefixed. in the intime wee are your Lordships servants
dated octo. 28. 1666

Bastian Bayers: Gilbert Gregoris

Next day the Commanders, officers, & deputies of most of the divisions, with some other Gentlemen, met at the house of Mr. Henry Meyer; And having taken into Consideration, the Enimies strength, as it was mentioned before in the beginning; his Resolution, which was to burne, & destroy without quarter, his Courage, which our men sufficiently proved in the last Conflict; his Advantage, having ships & boats, constantly out, to land where they pleased without trying, or hazzarding his men; good Armes & Ammunition enough; And on the other side, our weakness, the whole Island not being able to raise, sufficient force, to withstand so potent an Enimie; the impossibility of following him, to such places as he might land at; but that hee might kill & destroy w^{ch}

Without Resistance; Not powder enough, in the whole Island, to hold out as considerable disputes, or Engagements with him; And after that no hope of Relief, nor place of safety to Retreat too. Except, the Gods will move them; the many distractions & Confusions amongst their selves; severall openly declaring, they would oppose running away to the Enimie, And carrying away with them, their Masters goods; so that in a very short time, he would have been possesd, of all our slaves & goods; And lastly our old inveterate Enimie the barbarous Indian full Experience; for upon the fifth of November, they fell upon my Lord willoughbys plantation; killed his people to the ground; doing the like to Mr. Joseph hodgekin, & others: Some people killed by them in the paths, others unavoidable, Added to the blood & distraction, seen & felt two daies before; left us without hope of resisting the present Enimie; And therefore concluded, it better, in the sight of God & man, to surrender upon Articles, for the preserving of the lives (And as far as we could) the Estates of the King's Subjects, than to loose both, through an invidious obstinacie; And there upon this following Answer was sent to the L^d Generall.

Right Honourable
We have received y^{or} of the seventh of November new stile; which is some thing short to be, not knowing of a former summons, which is specified by y^{or} trumpet, & by some Linnet of the Gentlemen y^{or} prisoner; which we suppose, was either unknown to them, or well as to be, And therefore desiring y^{or} honour, not to militate the intention of our civillities, now to believe that we shall omit, any respects to y^{or} civill proposals, of a treaty time & place at y^{or} choice, where some Gentlemen of ours, may treat with y^{or} honour, or Commissioners, for as we are resolved, with Gods Assistance, not to forfeit our Allegiance, to our prince, by delivering up his possession easily so we shall not be injurious to our selves, nor render our Actions so contemptible, to men of Reason, As not to accept of y^{or} offering y^{or} civill construction, of what mistake have past, we subscribe our selves - dated 29th of Oct^r 1666
John Bonold: Bastiaen Bajer: Richard Buraston: phillip Warner: John Noye: John Cottrington: James Holliday: Richard Ayres: Henry Nicholls: Jeremie Watkins: Gilbert Gregorio: William Lea: Thomas Compton: Thomas Taylor: James hall: Thomas Longdon: harvey kaynell.

This Answer being sent upon the foresaid Conclusion, the 29th day of oct^r by a messenger of our owne: the said L^d Generall returned to the same day, by the same messenger, this following Reply

We have received y^{or} writing of this day, delivered to be by y^{or} deputies: we wish that you had sooner, thought of agreeing with us; which would have prevented, a great scale of blood shed, on y^{or} side, & great distraction of y^{or} goods: we are resolved to send you considerable persons on our part, with full power to treat, with you which are to come to the Road, over against the Starhouse, at St. Johns; And will be coming on Wednesday, by seven a clock in the morning; you will not fail, also, to send some persons on y^{or} part, to the same Starhouse, with full power to conclude this treaty: that this business may not be prolonged. it will not be to the dishonour of y^{or} King, to putt y^{or} Estates, & lives under protection, when we do not doubt, but that we had not power in our hands, to enforce you too it. our demeanor may plainly persuade you; that we wish you -
y^{or} servant Lefebvre de la barde.

30 oct^r 1666. Whereupon, the next Morning, Commissioners for the said treaty, were agreed upon & impowred, by the subscribers, to the following Commission, under their hands & seals -

By the Command, officers & deputies, for severall divisions of this Island Antigua -

Whereas the Lord Lefebvre de la barde, L^d Generall to the King of France, Arrives at this Island, the 25th day of this instant, with a fleet of shipping, & Forces from the said King, for the Reducing of the said Island, to the obedience of the King of France; And having made severall Attempts, of hostility, Against the same did upon the 28th instant; by a trumpet, send a summons, for the surrendering of the said Island: Which being Answered, & a Treaty Concluded, did, by Consent, Appoint, by his Reply, of the 29th instant a Meeting of Commissioners, of both parties, at St. Johns harbour, the 31st instant; then & there to treat, conferre & conclude touching, the said summons, & surrender. Whose Authority to Authorise & Empower you, Coll. John Bonold, L^d Coll. Bastiaen Bajer: Capt. Joseph Lee: Capt. Jamell Winthrop Capt. phillip Warner, & Mr. James Holliday; to repair to the said harbour, at the said time; then & there to treat; with the said Commissioners; proposals, & Articles of surrender (if you shall thinke fitt) to make; And every other inargenise, that may happen, for the people of the same Island: as also you are hereby further Authorised, upon y^{or} dislike of the said treaty, Not receiving, such satisfaction, as may suites the interest, of the interest of the inhabitants, to break off the said treaty; And what you shall Act or do in the said: we do hereby promise to Ratify & Confirm. in testimony whereof we have hereunto sett our hands & seals, in the said Island, the thirtieth day of oct^r 1666

Richard Buraston: Richard Ayres: Henry Nicholls: John fry: Gilbert Gregorio: Thomas Longdon: John Noye, obidiat. Bradshaw: Jeremie Watkins: Walter Livens: harvey kaynell Thomas Taylor: James hall: Richard Browne: William proctor: Clement Edward.

So Many have been our Afflictions, that amongst the many spoils, distractions & invasions, of the Enimie: we had Almost forgotten, to Remembe, how that the same time, they Assailed us, at L^d Coll. Bajer, they made an inroad, upon herminidum valley & the Creek: burning & destroying, as they went -

We are come, now to the last day of the month, & the first of the treaty: on which our Commissioners repaired to the place Appointed: where after a little stay, severall sloopes, & Chaloups appeared, And being come near the shore, sent for them to come on board, where was Mons^r de Clodove Governor of martinico & the intendant Mr. LeChambre: Commissioners on the French part. This day was spent without finishing the Articles: they standing upon very hard terms, with us: the treaty dissolved, till the next day: About the Admirall: where both parties met, & after long debate, concluded the Articles of surrender: Which were Ratified by the L^d Generall of the French on their part, And by these Commanders, officers & deputies

Deputies, & other Gentlemen, Inhabitants of this Island, on our part. in which we doubt not all Judicious
 And impartial men, will perceive. a greater Care hath been taken, to preserve our Allegiance: to our King
 than any particular Interest of his Subjects.
 Having made, what defence possibly could be Expected, from so weak a Colony: Lying dispeopled, & far a field
 Lunder, And three divisions, being almost Ruinated & destroyed, by the French already: the utmost Expectation
 hourly, to receive the like assault, And to be Rownd by fire & sword, had we not harkned to the proposals, of
 a treaty, besides that we were certainly Enforced, that this Enimied Resolution was, not to depart without; Re-
 sisting the Island: So many persons of honour, being Engaged therein: And therefore at the beginning, had dispatch
 as ship, for more men, to finish their work; when in the mean time they should have, fired & destroyed Round
 the Island, near the sea side; by which we should have been forced, to fly into the mountains, there to perish
 by cold & famine, or to the lower woods, to be smothered by the bloody Indians, of all which the Enimied In-
 tention, we had sufficient intelligence, from a French boy taken prisoner, at the beginning And afterwards
 Confirmed by some of our own prisoners; so that could we have seen the least possibility of defending
 the place: Against these two Enimies, at out, we should not have taken this Course, so much to our disadvantage
 In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands. in Antigua the ninth Novemb: 1666

Joseph Lee

Samuel Wintrop

Walter Leinen
Oba. Bradshaw

John: Wore

James H. Huddy

Wm. B. B. B.

Rev. Nicolson

Joseph Hocking

James Hall

Geo. Benthams
Thomas Longdon

Philip Warner
Rich. Brastons

William: Thomas

John Campbell

John: Ramsey

Element Curran

John: Brand

Henry Livings
Richard Ayres

For as much as the barbadian Soldiers, [taking Advantage] After departure of the French fleet
 from this Island, have Endevoured by Letters & other ways: to make the world believe, that our
 & Resolution, had freighted them Away, & so boast them selves, possessors of the said Island: it is
 thought convenient, to Add this small postscript, to the foregoing Remonstrance, that those who
 desire a true information, though the matter be never so distant, rather than live in falsehood,
 of the most Amiable, Complexion, May receive a just Account, of those people & their Carriage.
 The day of the Engagement, at C. Coll. Bay, being Saturday the 27. day of the month: whereas
 present about seven fift of them, under the Command of Ensign wall, who was slain in the fight
 And by whose encouragement; they partly regained, their lost Reputation the night before, when the
 Refused to beat by the Enimied quarters, notwithstanding, they had begged that Employment: And
 prevented others that would have done it. The evening of the same day, [After the defeat of our side] they
 got together to Capt. Wintrop, Remaining there that night, And then began to declare, that they
 would obey no officer, but whom they pleased: the next Morning, Ammunition was given them
 And two hogs for their share, with which not being Contented: they fell to killing hogs & sheep
 together with other kind people, by their example, untill they had destroyed: that
 day eleven hogs, thirty sheep & forty odd turkeys: besides ducks & dunghill fowls -

Many of which were yet, with two or three ^{hamb} in their bellies: when one they had killed, was
not to their mind, they ~~had~~ threw it in the barado, An hill an other. the 29th they separated them
 selves, from the rest of the Company, & Marched away to Mr. Strijers house; where ~~after~~ came
 to them, one Ensign William Lea, And most of the rest of the Barbadians; the said Lea, repaired
 to the gentlemen of the Country, that were met at Mr. myers, to consider whether the Island was
 in a condition to oppose the Enemy; or whether they should ~~consent~~ ^{consent} to a treaty: it was found
 necessary to treat; an Answer to the said summons for a treaty, was drawn, & signed by the sub-
 scribes, of ~~which~~ ^{which} the said Lea was one; And so returned to the Barbadian soldiers, at the said Strijers
 house. the next three days, whilst the business of the treaty was in Action, the said Lea & his
 party, having got possession of three hills of Rum, drew all loose people to them that would
 come, voted the said Lea ^{to be} their Commander in Chief: And in this heat, began a Resolution to
 oppose the Enemy; in this manner the continued drinking, And sending parties abroad to the
 neighbours, for to bring in their stock to feed them: Exulting their own Courage. And this
 officers which they had made, Refusing to obey their own Capt. John Cockerin, or to agree to
 any thing, the Commissioners of the treaty, had done: publishing their supposed Resolutions
 to fight it out, to the last man, ^{but} All this time they kept close, to the hills of Rum, it least nine
 miles from the Enemy. having thus spent five days: Christall growing scarce, And the said party
 complaining much of their Abuses, at by his letter to the Commissioners, knowing the said Com-
 missioners, were at Mr. Capt. Leaynells, a place secure enough, being about six miles distant
 from the Enemy, And well furnished, with hogs, sheep & Cattle, they Marched up thither, under
 pretence to Case upon the said Commissioners; No sooner came they thither, but they killed all they
 could come at, being by the said Leaynells Relation twenty two hogs, . . sheep, besides fowls.
 So Abominable was their Spoils, in that place, that six files of the Islanders, whom the straight
 designs, which was only to plunder & destroy, And so left them. the next Morning being the
 4th of Nov^r the said Lea sent a small party down the hill, to burn, & ^{to} Collyhurst house, he being
 a prisoner, as it was thought mortally wounded, And to bring what Cattle they could kill from thence, &
 ^{to} Collyhurst. the order was put in Execution, the Curing house & negroes house, burnt to the ground
 as fires made under the bed in the dwelling house, [but that so great a wickedness] was by one of the Company
 prevented, And the house saved, Contrary to the will, order & knowledge of the said Lea. the following night they
 continued at the said Leaynells, where two days before, the said ^{to} Collyhurst, had put fire (kilt), that he had
 saved in the woods from the plunder of the Enemy; which the said Lea & one Joseph Richardson, his Counsellor, And
 William Taylor, one of his Captains, when the people of the house, where supposed to be as sleep, broke open
 And carryd Away, Every thing of value therein, not leaving him a shirt or shute to wear, more than he had on
 his back, in Reward, of his services Against the Enemy, the week before. the same day about the ten a Clock
 never saw the Enemy, nor came within six miles of them, but constantly kept themselves, at far from them as
 as they could. Let the impariall Judge, or whether Affairs of more Consequence call'd them Away, leaving this to
 further assurance, or whether the overruling hand, of the Almighty God, who makes war, & creates peace, hath
 done this, Let the wise in heart consider.

31st October 1685
Certificate of
Antony